

*G12.76 Use of this section (Operation) as an alternative to section 12.74*

Proposed February 18, 2005

Section 12.76 of the *OHS Regulation* states:

Operation, inspection, repair, maintenance and modification of a vehicle support or automotive lift must be carried out according to the manufacturer's instructions or the written instructions of a professional engineer.

The purpose of this guideline is to describe circumstances where compliance with section 12.76 of the *OHS Regulation* would be an acceptable alternative to compliance with the requirements of section 12.74 of the *OHS Regulation* (Automotive Lift and Other Vehicle Support Standards). It also describes some important differences between successive editions of the ANSI standards for automotive lifts.

**Section 12.76 as an alternative to section 12.74**

An owner, employer or other person would normally be expected to comply with section 12.74 of the *OHS Regulation* (Standards) with regard to the operation, inspection and maintenance of all automotive lifts. However, an owner, employer or other person may refer to section 12.76 of the *OHS Regulation* (Operation) for the operation, inspection, repair, maintenance or modification of a vehicle support or automotive lift in circumstances where:

- a) The standard referenced in section 12.74 of the *OHS Regulation* is not applicable to the equipment given its year of manufacture (e.g. pre-1998, 2000 or 2003).
- b) An earlier edition of the standard does not cover repair or modification (e.g. 1981, 1974). The 1990, 1994 and 2000 editions of the standard only require manufacturer's consent for modification or reconstruction, not necessarily manufacturer's instructions.
- c) The automobile lift apparatus is not of a type covered in the standard (e.g. vehicle display or storage lifts, and some portable lifting devices).
- d) The manufacturer is no longer in business (a professional engineer can provide instructions in lieu of the manufacturer).
- e) Repair or modification to structural components has not been designed or inspected by the manufacturer (a professional engineer can provide the design, necessary instructions and final inspection).

If the services of a professional engineer are used in BC, that engineer must be licensed to practice by the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of BC. If the services of a professional engineer are used outside of BC, that engineer should be licensed to practice in that province or state.

**Changes to ANSI automotive lift standards**

The 1974 and 1981 editions of American National Standard ANSI B153.1 *Safety Requirements for the Construction, Care and Use of Automotive Lifts* refer to the manufacturer for maintenance, operation and inspection instructions, but do not explicitly include repair and modification. The 1990 edition adds the requirement for manufacturer's consent prior to modifications.

The 1994 version, renamed ANSI/ALI ALOIM, adds instructions for repair maintenance, with reference to recommendations of the lift manufacturer. The 1994 standard is superseded by *ANSI/ALI ALOIM-2000 Safety Requirements for Operation, Inspection and Maintenance*, which references manufacturer's recommendations for maintenance, repairs, and manufacturer's permission for modification or reconstruction. In addition, *ANSI/ALI ALOIM-2000* stipulates further requirements that may not be specified by the manufacturer.

The 1993 and 2003 edition of ANSI standard *ASME PALD Portable Automotive Lifting Devices* references product instructions for operation, maintenance and inspection, and that repairs be performed by the manufacturer or supplier's authorized repair facility.

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